THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) ; (a) and (b) The dteails of unit-wise production targets and actual production in 1993-94 are given in the annexure. [*See* Appendix 172, Annexure 55]

The shortfall in production of Nitrogen was mainly due to reduced gas availability in most of the gas-based units, unforeseen plant break-down in the plant of Indo-Gulf Fertilizers and equipment problems in GNFC Bharuch and MCF-Mangalore, raw water shortage in MFL-Madras and poor performance of the two sick public sector companies viz., Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation Ltd. (HFC) and the Fertilizer Corporation of India Ltd. (FCI).

The shortfall in the production of Phosphate was due to closures and cut-backs in production effected by a number of DAP/Complex manufacturing units in the first quarter of the year. This, in turn, arose out of decontrol of phosphatic fertilizers in August, 1992 which pushed up market prices and led to consumer resistance. Added to this, cheaper imports flooded the country in early 1993. In the latter part of the year, difficulties in importing ammonia and phosphoric acid at reasonable prices resulted in loss of production.

Production performance of fertilizer units of Uttar Pradesh under construction

2498. SHRI DEBABRATA BISWAS : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that fertilizer units in Uttar Pradesh, under construction for the last five-years, have failed to start the production;

(b) if so, the names of the units and the [illegible] for delay; and

(c) action taken by Government for expedition[illegible] completion of such, projects ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) (a) to (c) Two new ammonia-urea plants in the private sector are currently under implementation in Uttar Pradesh. The plant of M/s. Tata Chemicals Limited at Babrala (Distt. Badaun) is almost complete and is undergoing trial production. After grant of 'deemed export', status by the Government the actual zero date for this project was taken as 1-11-1991. The other plant is being set up by M/s. Bindal Agro Chemicals Limited at Shahjahanpur. The revised zero date for this project is 1-4-1992. It is expected to be completed by the last quarter of 1995-96. The implementation has been slow because of delay in tying up of loan funds by the promoters.

In addition, approval for doubling the production capacity of IFFCO's ammonia-urea plant at Aonla (Distt. Bereilly) was granted on 30-9-1993, with a completion schedule of 36 months. The implementation of this project is progressing as per the schedule.

Scarcity of Urea in Tamil Nadu

2499. SHRI TINDIVANAM G. VENKATRAMAN : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of the artificial scarcity of urea in Tamil Nadu and the increased price;

(b) if so, the steps taken against the mischief-mongers in this connection; and

(c) what is the total amount of urea supplied to Tamil Nadu ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) : (a) and (b) No definite information has been received regarding creation of an artificial scarcity of Urea in the state of Tamil Nadu with a view to realising a higher price.

(c) The supply of urea in the state of Tamil Nadu during 1994-95 (up to 10-12-94) are as under :—

(figures in 000 mts)

	ECA allocation	Availability*	Sales	%age of availability to ECA
Kharif 1994 (April 94—Sept. 94)	214.50	250.45	224.29	117%
Rabi 94-95 (Oct. 94—March 95)	510.40	239.39 (up to 10-12-94)	197.86	47%

NOTE : Availabilty Includes operating stock of urea at the beginning of the season and material despatched to the State during the period of the season.